

for practitioners of fifteen years' standing—that is, if I can find the necessary time without neglecting my practice. Suppose I were to obtain a foreign M.D., will you or any of your readers kindly tell me if there is any legal or other objection to my styling myself M.D. on my doorplate or billheads?—I am, etc.,

February 10th.

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

SIR,—It is difficult to follow the logic of the arguments which your correspondent "A University Graduate" employs in his letter on the above subject in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of February 4th. He apparently contends that it is only those who are "canny" or "cute" who obtain their medical qualifications from the universities, while those who lack these qualities are content with "licences to practise." He further suggests that those who have them should "water the capital" of their licences by obtaining the title of M.D., etc., from the Royal Colleges, and so have their lack of "cuteness" condoned by the higher authorities.

His main argument seems to be that the examinations for the R.C.S. and R.C.P. are at least equal to those for the degrees of "some" universities, and that the students who pass through the former deserve the M.B. equally with those who obtain the latter. Still each man selects his "school of medicine" with his eyes open.

The number of Royal Colleges proportionately to Universities in both Ireland and Scotland is greater than in England, particularly so in Ireland, where there are two universities and three licensing bodies. Your correspondent is quite wrong when he states that "four-fifths of Irish-born or educated medical men hold university degrees," as it is a well-known fact in the Irish schools that the majority seek licences. Further, in ordinary fairness, he should have mentioned what universities he compared the Royal Colleges of England, and his remark about "watering the capital" is quite unjustified. I cannot help thinking that "A University Graduate" is, to say the least, excessively chivalrous when he desires to bestow "the gown and hood galore" on all his fellow practitioners who boast of a licence to practise medicine and surgery; as, of course, the Royal Colleges of Scotland and Ireland would also desire, and could not well be denied that privilege.—I am, etc.,

February 14th.

M.B.

THE COEXISTENCE OF ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

SIR,—Your columns within the past few weeks have been open to the noting of various cases of coexisting diseases. I am able to give particulars of two cases occurring in practice during the past year—namely, measles and pertussis, varicella and scarlet fever.

In October, 1898, I was attending H. P., aged 17 months, female, for pertussis, then in the third week, with violent paroxysms. Measles was prevalent in the house, four brothers and sisters being affected; isolation was imperfect. On October 18th the child had the initial symptoms of measles, coryza, lachrymation, etc., and the next day a typical eruption of measles appeared on face and body. This all disappeared in the course of a week, but the cough still persisted, retaining its characteristic whoop until the sixth week, when it ultimately yielded; the child is now in perfect health.

On August 19th, 1898, I saw B. G., a boy aged 14 months, then covered with a profuse vesicular eruption having all the characteristics of varicella; he was also feverish, and his throat was inflamed. Next day the vesicles had all disappeared, and instead was an extensive punctiform rash on the body and limbs of the child, with high temperature, throat still more inflamed and swollen; recovery was rapid and uneventful, and desquamation profuse.—I am, etc.,

Haulbowline, Jan. 29th.

F. C. FITZGERALD.

OBITUARY.

THOMAS COOKE, F.R.C.S.ENG., M.D. AND B.SC. PARIS.

WE recorded with deep regret last week the sudden death of Mr. Cooke on February 8th, in his 58th year. He was the only son of John Hawley Cooke, and was born in America in 1841. He crossed the Atlantic in early infancy, and was brought up in Paris. As his father objected to send him to school, at 13

he betook himself thither, himself making all arrangements with the schoolmaster. He commenced his medical studies also in Paris, taking B.A. and B.Sc. in 1862, and the M.D. degree in 1870. He was House-Surgeon in turn to the five following hospitals: Bicêtre, Ste. Eugénie, St. Louis, Lariboisière, and Le Midi, and Demonstrator of Anatomy in the Ecole Pratique de la Faculté de Médecine. He was in Paris during part of the siege, and experienced great hardships. He came over to England in 1870, became M.R.C.S. in January, and F.R.C.S. in May, 1871, and was that same year appointed Demonstrator of Anatomy and Physiology to the medical school of Westminster Hospital. He retained the post until 1875. He was also Assistant-Surgeon to the hospital for many years, and at the time of his death was Surgeon to out-patients in the same institution.

In 1870, Mr. Cooke founded the London School of Anatomy and Physiology, which he thenceforward conducted up to the time of his death. He was constantly animated by the earnest desire to provide his students with a "knowledge of anatomy derived from individual practical examination of the human body, and investigations which the student can himself repeat, as opposed to scientific abstractions." He started with some two or three pupils, but by dint of never-tiring energy he raised the number until his school came to hold a perfectly unique position in the United Kingdom as the only private medical school licensed to keep a dissecting room, and recognised to take students during the curriculum. He was ever at pains to further the progress of his pupils, and endeared himself to them by his kindly manner and ready sympathy with their work. The ideal which he sought to inculcate inspired his men with a lofty conception of their profession, and encouraged them to persevere in honest practical work. Some of the best-known teachers in the profession were among his students. At the time of his death he was able to "sign up" his pupils for the Universities of London and Durham, the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, and the Society of Apothecaries.

Mr. Cooke contributed both to English and French medical literature. Among his works were *Aphorisms in Applied Anatomy and Operative Surgery*; *Dissection Guides*; *A Plea for Practical Work in Anatomy*; *Esquisse d'une Anatomie Opératoire*, and several other similar productions. He also contributed to periodical literature articles on Suspension by the Head in Sayre's Treatment of Spinal Curvature,¹ Treatment of Strumous Abscess of the Neck,² Alcohol as an Antiseptic for Dressings,³ as well as many other papers.

Mr. Cooke married in 1870, and has left three sons, one of whom is following his father in the medical profession; also two daughters, one of whom is a staff nurse at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. He was a fervent Christian, and an incessant worker for his school and his pupils, being always up at 6.30 A.M., though he seldom retired before midnight, and rarely took any recreation. He seemed, in fact, to have lately undermined his strength, and had suffered from angina pectoris. In the morning of February 8th he had delivered his lecture as usual, and was demonstrating in the dissecting room, when a sudden fatal seizure occurred.

The funeral took place at Kensal Green on February 13th, and was attended by a large number of his former pupils.

Mr. J. Bland Sutton, F.R.C.S., writes as follows: Mr. Thomas Cooke was a man for whom I entertained deep respect. He was the first anatomist with whom I came in contact on beginning my medical studies in April, 1878. At that period dissections were not encouraged in the regular London schools of anatomy during the summer, but, thoroughly aware of the deep importance of a sound knowledge of anatomy, I entered for a six months' course at Cooke's well-known room. His objective methods of teaching appealed to me, and his intense enthusiasm for human anatomy was so contagious, that I look back with the greatest pleasure to his vivid and inspiring demonstrations. His method consisted in exhibiting the chief anatomical points on the dissected subject in strict relationship through a series of demonstrations lasting three months. In order to do this with advantage it was necessary that the students attending the class should be familiar with the chief details of human

¹ *Lancet*, 1879.

² *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, 1876.

³ *Practitioner*, 1873.

anatomy. As a result, when the class was good there was a brisk round of question and answer for an hour, enlivened with sallies of wit and repartee, often of a brilliant, kind which delighted me.

Cooke was extremely anxious that I should become his demonstrator, and when he found my goal was surgery he kindly used his influence with Mr. Henry Morris, who, solely on Mr. Cooke's recommendation, made me a prosector and demonstrator at the Middlesex Hospital, and he was thus the means of initiating a friendship with one for whom I have ever since entertained the highest respect, and which has been attended with great and good consequences to me.

It is too true that Cooke in recent years felt that I have been in a measure responsible for leading students to "mix morphology with plain anatomy," and thereby made them impatient of mastering the details of anatomy in the dissecting room. However, a few years ago I felt deeply honoured when my old master attended my morphology class and became enamoured with the new order of things, or, as he humorously termed it, "the fairy morphology," and the last edition of his famous *Tables* shows clearly enough that he was on the eve of conversion.

It is usual to speak of my friend as a "grinder," inasmuch as he taught men for examinations; he was a coach, but he taught in such an objective and real way that I regard him as one of the best teachers of human anatomy with whom I have come in contact, and there are hundreds of men in England and in the British Empire who are under deep obligation to Thomas Cooke for the real knowledge which he imparted in the pleasantest manner in his quadrilateral building of corrugated iron in a disused cemetery.

That he should be seized with his fatal illness and die in the room where he worked and taught is as impressive as the tragic end of Molière. Fitzgerald translates a quatrain of Omar thus:

'Tis all a chequer-board of nights and days,
Where destiny with men for pieces plays;
Hither and thither moves and mates and slays,
And one by one back in the closet lays.

For me destiny has removed from my chequer-board a man who largely influenced my play in life, and I doubt if I shall meet his like again.

CHARLES ARTHUR DIXON, M.R.C.S.Eng.,
L.R.C.P.LOND.

It was with great regret that the members of the medical profession in Leeds, as well as a large circle of friends, heard of the death of Mr. Charles A. Dixon at the early age of 29. Mr. Dixon's health began to fail in the middle of last year, when he suffered from a blood-stained pleural effusion, and later from hæmoptysis. In December last, after being entertained at a farewell dinner by his more intimate friends in the profession, he left for South Africa. When he arrived there his health became so much worse that he soon returned, and landed at Southampton on February 3rd. Here he was met by Mr. W. H. Brown and Mr. W. A. Stott of Leeds. He was found to be so seriously ill that it was unwise to remove him, and he rapidly succumbed to an increasing dyspnoea on February 6th.

Mr. Dixon was an exceptionally good student in the Leeds School of Medicine, where he carried off several prizes. After taking his diploma in 1891, he worked with Mr. Pridgin Teale for eighteen months, and then served for a year as a Resident Medical Officer at the Leeds Public Dispensary, where he gave great satisfaction to all concerned. After this he commenced practice in Leeds, and soon attained a very considerable success. During his student days Mr. Dixon also passed the intermediate M.B.Lond. examination, and was vigorously preparing himself for the last part of the M.B.Vict. before the commencement of his fatal illness. No doubt this work along with that of his practice helped to precipitate his breakdown in health.

The kindness of his disposition, the evenness of his temper, and his straightforward honesty of purpose endeared him to all who came into contact with him. Such characteristics, combined with a sound knowledge of his professional work, marked him out early as one assured of success, and his loss is deplored by all who were fortunate enough to know him.

JAMES ARMSTRONG McDONAGH, F.R.C.S., Etc.

WE regret to have to record the death on February 10th of this old and much-respected general practitioner, aged 79 years. Mr. McDonagh was the son of the late Dr. McDonagh, of Ranelagh County, Dublin, was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, Member of the College of Surgeons of England 1842, Fellow 1873, was also Licentiate of the Apothecaries' Hall and Licentiate of Midwifery, Dublin, and for some time Lecturer in Anatomy in the School of Medicine of the Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland, and a member of the Court of Examiners of that institution.

In the early part of his career he served as Surgeon in the Cunard Company's service, and was also attached to the Crimean Expedition as Civil Surgeon. For a considerable number of years he was engaged in general practice in the Hampstead district, and endeared himself to a very large circle of friends, owing to his genial manners and extensive fund of information on general and social subjects. He had retired from practice for ten years, and afterwards for some time resident in Parliament Hill, Hampstead. He took much interest in local affairs, and was for some years a very active member of the Hampstead Vestry. Mr. McDonagh was thrice married, and had a family of two sons and a daughter by the first wife, one son only surviving.

Mr. McDonagh was for many years a member of the British Medical Association and of many of the medical societies of London.

DR. DUMONT-PALLIER, the distinguished Paris physician, who recently died at the age of 72, was born at Honfleur, and studied medicine in Paris. He obtained the much-coveted prize of the Internat in 1856, and in 1857 took his degree with a thesis on Purulent Infection and Putrid Infection after Delivery. From 1861 to 1863 he was Trousseau's *Chef de Clinique* at the Hôtel Dieu, and had a considerable share in arranging the great clinician's lectures for publication. In 1886 he became Physician to the Paris Hospital. During the Commune in 1870 he organised a service for the assistance of the wounded at La Pitié. In 1875 the Académie de Médecine awarded him a prize for a paper entitled *A Contribution to the Study of the Anomalies of the Vaccinal Eruption*. He was *décoré* many years ago, and was promoted to be an Officer of the Legion of Honour in 1884. He was elected a member of the Academy of Medicine in 1892. Dumont-pallier was a most successful teacher, and first at La Pitié and afterwards at the Hôtel Dieu his clinical lectures on Gynæcology were largely attended. He was an indefatigable worker, and took an active part in the scientific work of several societies. He was perpetual Secretary of the Society of Biology, a past President of the Société Médicale des Hôpitaux, and perpetual President of the Society of Hypnology and Psychological Medicine. His work ranged over the whole province of medicine, but he took special interest in Gynæcology, Hypnotism, and Neuropathology. He was a member of the Committee of the Society of Biology, the other members of which were Charcot and Luys, who examined the metallotherapeutical experiments of Burq, and reported favourably thereon. He was the founder of the Société d'Hypnologie. Dumontpallier made many ingenious additions to gynæcological and general therapeutics. He was a conscientious and straightforward man, and in nothing showed those qualities more conspicuously than in his investigations of transference of sensation and other matters in the "misty mid-region," where nervous disease and imposture are mingled in varying and perplexing proportions.

By the death of Dr. THOMAS JONES, of Preston Grange, Bournemouth, which occurred on January 25th at the age of 60, the medical profession has lost one of those men who in their own comparatively narrow sphere do more good and shed more lustre on their profession than many who bulk larger in the world's eye. He received his medical training at St. Bartholomew's Hospital and was admitted a member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England and a Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries in 1860. His early career was spent on the Gold Coast, where he remained nearly five years. When he left there was no European of the same standing as himself in the Colony. His own power of endurance he attributed to his